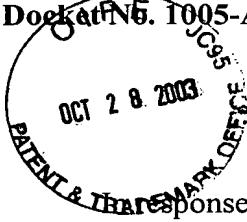


Application No. 09/701,195
Docket No. 1005-AGGUS3

Examiner ROY M. PUNNOOSE
Art Unit 2877



REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

In response to the Official Action mailed on July 10, 2003, please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows.

In the Specification

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 2, with the following.

Referring now to Figure 2, imaging apparatus 5 is shown. The imaging apparatus 5 includes housing 2, display 9, status lights 27, access door 29, filter arrays 23, 24, and 26, power switch 31, legs ~~35a-d~~ 35, power indicator 33 and output port 16. The entire apparatus 5 is enclosed by the housing 2; the housing 2 can be easily removed for access to the inside of the apparatus 5. Either plastic or metal may be used for the construction of the housing. The housing seals the interior of the apparatus 5 from external light sources. The interior surfaces of the housing are coated with a non-reflective light absorbing material to limit reflection of the plurality of lighting elements housed therein.

Leveling legs ~~35a-d~~ 35 have shock absorbing pads that are used to level the device and reduce vibrations. The imaging apparatus 5 employs fan 61 and 83 to blow air into the imaging apparatus through air filters to facilitate air circulation such that dust does not enter and settle into the apparatus 5, the air circulation also ensures that the ambient temperature does not exceed operating parameters.

In the Claims

42.(Currently Amended) A system for generating, maintaining, and retrieving characterizing information about gemstones comprising:

a first illumination source disposed for illuminating a gemstone from a first

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